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FOUNDATION PLANTING OF HARDY FERNS

A FERN BED FOR ONLY \$5

We Offer Prepaid by Parcel Post for \$5

8 Ostrich Plume Ferns.

8 Lady Ferns.

4 Osmundas.

One-half assortment, 10 ferns, for \$3.00.

One-fourth assortment, 5 ferns, for \$1.75.

Any one fern for 50c.

Hardy outdoor Ferns grow best in the shade or half shade and will do well in the border. They are just the thing for that shady place around your house where most flowers will not do so well.

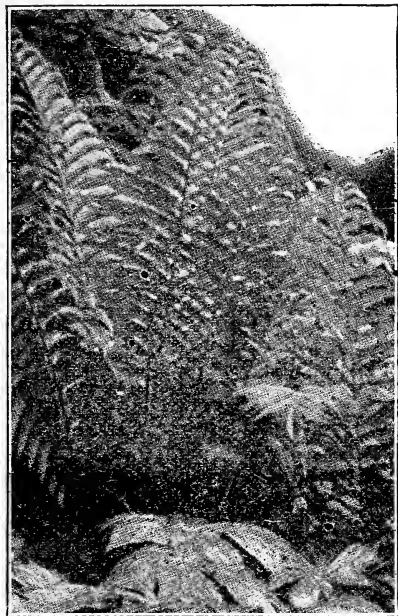
Of all the Hardy Ferns the Ostrich Plume, also called the Palm of the North, is perhaps the best as it grows the tallest and fastest of any Fern. It often has as many as fifteen fronds gracefully arranged, presenting an object more beautiful than many varieties of palms. The fronds under favorable conditions attain a length up to four feet.

Lady Fern (*Aspl. Felix fœmina*) a large handsome fern—a wood and roadside fern—presenting many varying forms, ranks with the Ostrich and Osmunda, with a distinct different type.

The *Osmunda Claytoniana* or Flowering Fern is clothed with loose wool when unfolding its fronds which sometimes under favorable conditions attains a height of more than four feet, is beautifully cinnamon colored. This variety will do well in open and dry shady places.

These three Ferns represent three distinct types and will make a splendid combination as a background for many varieties of perennial flowers in the open or half shady places. When once planted they will come back stronger for every year if reasonable care is given. They will grow in common garden soil which can be improved by the addition of some leaf mold or pulverized peat.

We have contracted these Ferns from northern Minnesota where the temperature occasionally goes more than 40 degrees below zero. The dormant roots will be shipped direct to you from there. On arrival give them a good watering and keep them moist. The planting season runs from Oct. 1st to July 1st. Fall planting gives the soil a chance to settle solid around the roots which will insure stronger growth the first year.



OSTRICH PLUME FERN

CULTURAL DIRECTIONS

Most of the native ferns can be grown under cultivation; they do best in shady and half shady spots in the garden and are useful to grow close to houses in corners which are too dark for most other plants; they will do excellent service in foundation planting on the east and north sides of buildings. On the other hand many of them will also do well in places which receive considerable direct sunlight; among the best of these are the Ostrich and Sensitive ferns, the *Osmunda Claytoniana*, the Lady fern and the Goldies fern. Most ferns do best in a light soil containing much vegetable matter or humus.

While few ferns grow well in very dry soil, the common notion that they require very wet or almost swampy conditions is not well founded; even those that grow naturally in very wet places do nicely under ordinary garden conditions. While the native ferns are of course perfectly hardy, they are better off for a covering of leaves or other mulching material similar to the conditions in their natural habitats.

The hardy native ferns do not make satisfactory house plants as most of them ripen up their leaves in the fall and remain dormant all winter or in the dry season where that prevails in place of frost.

SOILS: While most of these ferns as stated above do reasonably well in common garden soil we can improve conditions by imitating nature. We will notice that where the most luxuriant growth of ferns are found is usually where years of leafmold have accumulated. Well pulverized peat or muck make a good substitute to mix in the soil and if soil is heavy clay some sand will benefit.

WHEN AND HOW TO PLANT: Hardy ferns can be planted any time when the soil is in good working condition between Sept. 15 and June 15. They prefer a settled foundation and cool feet, consequently they will do better the first year if planted in the fall and immediately given a good soaking of water to compact the soil among and around the roots and mulched. If late spring planting is followed by a dry hot summer, they are likely to ripen up in the middle of the summer the first season unless artificial watering can be given in abundance. Rotting wood shavings and sawdust make a first class mulch.

Plant with the crown just below the surface and never more than 1 inch deep. When once established they will come back stronger year after year. There is no difficulty in planting them, in fact they are not easily killed by mistreatment. These roots are not immature light mail order plants, but strong well established, not less than 5 year old plants, with a lot of vitality stored up in their roots which will keep them alive for a long time under adverse conditions. This refers especially to the Ostrich, the *Osmundas*, the Goldies and Lady ferns. The Maidenhair and the Ostrich ferns will thank you for a little lime if that is lacking in your soil.

WHEN FERNS ARRIVE either in winter or when ground is not in good condition for planting, open the package, wet them well and either put them in a dark cool cellar or still better outdoors, well covered with trash and let them freeze and they will be in fine condition for planting when the ground is ready.

WE CAN FURNISH THE FOLLOWING HARDY FERNS AT 50c EACH

FIVE OF ONE VARIETY FOR \$1.50

Prepaid by Parcel Post

- Adiantum Pedatum* (Maidenhair fern), 12—18 inches.
- Aspidium Acrosticoides* (Dagger fern), 10—15 inches.
- Aspidium Christatum* (Chrested fern, evergreen), 10—15 inches.
- Aspidium Christatum* (var. *Clintoniana*, evergreen), 15—25 inches.
- Aspidium Goldiana* (Goldies Wood fern), 25—35 inches.
- Aspidium Thelypteris* (Marsh Shield fern), 10—15 inches.
- Asplenium Felix Fæmina* (Lady fern), 15—35 inches.
- Dicksonia Punctilobula* (Hayscented fern), 12—18 inches.
- Onoclea Sensibilis* (Sensitive fern), 10—35 inches.
- Onoclea Strutiopteris* (Ostrich Plume fern), 25—50 inches.
- Osmunda Cinnamomea* (Cinnamon Colored fern), 20—40 inches.
- Osmunda Claytoniana* (Interrupted or Flowering fern), 20—35 inches.
- Osmunda Regalis* (Royal fern), 20—35 inches.
- Polypodium Vulgare* (Rock fern), 5—12 inches.